StatsUpdate

Topic: **Labour Force**
Annual Average for 2016
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Background: In 2016, the average number of persons employed in Nunavut was estimated at **13,500** – an increase of **800 persons** from the previous year. The annual average employment rate was estimated at **55.9%** – also higher than the previous year, but lower than the other two territories.

Details:

Annual Average Employment Levels and Employment Rates for the Population 15 Years and Over by Province and Territory

	Employment		Change in Employment		Employment Rate	
	2016	2015	2015 to 2016		2016	2015
	thousands		thousands	% change	%	
Nunavut	**13.5**	**12.7**	**0.8**	**6.3**	**55.9**	**53.2**
Canada[1]	**18,079.9**	**17,946.6**	**133.3**	**0.7**	**61.1**	**61.3**
Newfoundland and Labrador	232.6	236.2	-3.6	-1.5	52.4	53.3
Prince Edward Island	71.5	73.2	-1.7	-2.3	58.7	60.5
Nova Scotia	446.2	448.1	-1.9	-0.4	56.6	57.0
New Brunswick	351.5	351.8	-0.3	-0.1	56.4	56.6
Quebec	4,133.1	4,097.0	36.1	0.9	60.0	59.9
Ontario	6,999.6	6,923.2	76.4	1.1	60.7	60.8
Manitoba	633.6	636.2	-2.6	-0.4	63.4	64.4
Saskatchewan	568.5	573.7	-5.2	-0.9	65.4	66.6
Alberta	2,263.8	2,301.1	-37.3	-1.6	66.6	68.6
British Columbia	2,379.5	2,306.2	73.3	3.2	60.5	59.5
Yukon	20.2	19.4	0.8	4.1	71.4	69.0
Northwest Territories	22.5	21.9	0.6	2.7	69.2	68.4

Notes:
[1]The Canada total is the sum of the provinces and does not include the territories.

Background: In Nunavut, both Inuit and Non-Inuit employment increased between 2015 and 2016. Although Inuit accounted for about **80%** of the working-age population in Nunavut, on average, they accounted for only **70%** of all the employed persons. This disparity is also represented in the employment rate[3]. In 2016, the employment rate was **48.4%** for Inuit, while it was **85.6%** for Non-Inuit.

Details:

Labour Force Characteristics for People Aged 15 and Over, Nunavut, 2015 to 2016 (Annual Averages)

	2016	2015
Total population aged 15 and over	24,200	23,800
Labour force	15,900	15,000
Employment	13,500	12,700
Unemployment[1]	2,400	2,400
Participation rate (%)	65.6	63.2
Employment rate (%)	55.9	53.2
Unemployment rate[1] (%)	14.9	15.9
Inuit population aged 15 and over	19,400	19,000
Labour force	11,600	10,900
Employment	9,400	8,600
Unemployment[1]	2,200	2,300
Participation rate (%)	60.0	57.0
Employment rate (%)	48.4	44.9
Unemployment rate[1] (%)	19.3	21.2
Non-Inuit population aged 15 and over[2]	4,900	4,800
Labour force	4,300	4,200
Employment	4,200	4,100
Participation rate (%)	88.1	87.7
Employment rate (%)	85.6	86.0

Notes:

[1]Please use the unemployment estimates with caution as they tend to have a higher variability than employment estimates.

[2]Unemployment estimates for Non-Inuit are suppressed due to their small numbers.

[3]Employment Rate is the number of employed persons in a particular group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Definitions

Labour Force

Civilian non-institutional population 15 years of age and over who, during the survey reference week, were employed or unemployed.

Employment

Employed persons are those who, during the reference week:
(a) did any work at all at a job or business, that is, paid work in the context of an employer-employee relationship, or self-employment; or

(b) had a job but were not at work due to factors such as own illness or disability, personal or family responsibilities, vacation, labour dispute other reasons (excluding persons on layoff, between casual jobs, and those with a job to start at a future date).

Unemployment

Refers to persons who during the reference week were available for work and; (i) were without work and had looked for work in the previous four weeks, or (ii) had been on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or (iii) had definite arrangements to start a new job within the next four weeks.

Participation Rate

Total labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the labour force in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Employment Rate

Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The employment rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the number employed in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Unemployment Rate

Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the number unemployed in that group expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that group.

Inuit Identity

Persons who identified themselves as Inuit - based on the individual's own perception of his/her Inuit identity.

Notes about the Labour Force Survey in Nunavut

All the data in this document are from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), a national household survey conducted each month by Statistics Canada. The LFS is the source of the official measure of unemployment in Canada and provides information on major labour market trends. The objective of the LFS is to divide the working-age population into three mutually exclusive classifications – employed, unemployed, and not in the labour force – and to provide descriptive data on each of these categories.

On May 8, 2009, Statistics Canada released Nunavut data collected through the LFS based on a recent increase in survey coverage in Nunavut. The Nunavut LFS data now covers 19 communities, representing about 92% of all Nunavut residents aged 15 years and over. The increase in survey coverage was fully implemented in March 2008 and therefore, the expanded Nunavut LFS data series starts in March 2008 and new data will be released every month thereafter. More information on this change is available in the "*Guide to the Labour Force Survey in Nunavut, 2009*", located on the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics' website (http://www.stats.gov.nu.ca/en/home.aspx).

The Nunavut data are collected from a sample of approximately 730 households per three-month consecutive period, involving about 1,800 persons 15 years of age and over. Data collection is carried out each month during the week following the LFS reference week (normally the week containing the 15th day of the month). The average response rate in Nunavut was 75.5% in 2016 and 76.3% in 2015.

All survey counts are rounded to the nearest 100, but the rates are based on the unrounded data. Due to the rounding some components may not sum to the total. Rounded estimates of less than 200 are suppressed for confidentiality and reliability reasons.

More detailed information on the Labour Force Survey methodology, data quality and definitions is available from the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics. For more information about the survey and/or to obtain data, please contact the Bureau's information officers (mmearns@gov.nu.ca or dkilabuk@gov.nu.ca).

For more statistical information, visit our website at http://www.stats.gov.nu.ca/en/home.aspx